

## **ABSTRACT**

A machine operator protective guard extends upwardly from the rear edge of the operator platform. The top of the protective guard is attached to the operator cage to increase the stability and sturdiness of the protective guard. The protective guard includes a bowed out section increasing room in which the operator can maneuver. This bowed out portion extends horizontally outwardly an additional three to five inches from the top and bottom attachment points of the protective guard. In addition, extensions extend inwardly from the side edges of the protective guard to increase the protection afforded to the operator from falling or shifting merchandise. A flat has a bed and a fence extends upwardly from the bed. The fence is positionable at a plurality of locations along the bed. The distance between the fence and the protective guard can be adjusted to suit the merchandise being transported.